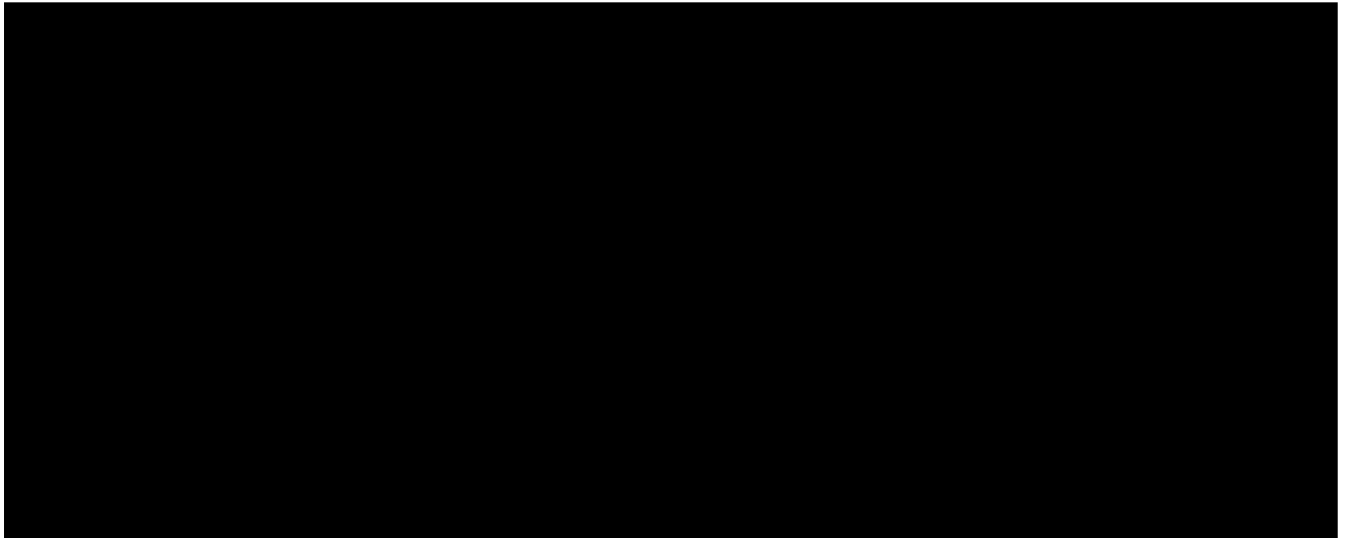


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Importance of Intelligence on Urban Areas in the U.S.S.R.

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Problems

1. Gross Inadequacy of Available Information (Well summarized in Army Intelligence Collection Memorandum 26-25-26)

"Urban area information available to IAC agencies can be placed in three general categories: sketchy, outdated, or of questionable reliability. Production of intelligence, therefore, involves extensive analysis of fragmentary information contained in a wide variety of sources.

The largest quantity of material deals with urban areas in European U.S.S.R. The foundation of intelligence in this area is captured World War II German documents, particularly aerial photography, which have been corrected and supplemented by interrogation of former Soviet prisoners-of-war and of Soviet defectors, Soviet documentary material, and Western official observer intelligence reports. However, coverage is by no means complete or current.

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The foundation of intelligence for the remainder of the U.S.S.R. is less stable. The amount of source material is less voluminous, captured German documents are inaccurate, and the coverage resulting from former prisoner-of-war, defector, and Western intelligence reports is limited. In addition, Soviet documentary sources are sketchy and often of questionable reliability, and aerial photographic coverage is spotty.

Collection efforts directed toward urban areas located within European U.S.S.R. should be guided by the primary requirement for current information. The rapid growth and change in the urbanization pattern of this area has resulted in the outdated of much available information. Urban area coverage for the remainder of the U.S.S.R. is so scanty that all information, both outdated and current, is urgently required."

2. Decreasing Intelligence Take on Urban Information

"The problem of securing urban area information is becoming more difficult. Material derived from interrogation of former prisoners-of-war is practically exhausted, few defector reports are forthcoming, and, as usual, Soviet documentary sources are vague, incomplete, and often purposely misleading."

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Strong Points of [REDACTED] Repatriate Information

1. Repatriates had good opportunities for observation. For the most part, they were treated as native Soviet citizens, with

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complete freedom to move and observe -- in contrast to the prisoners-of-war, who lived in camps and only rarely entered cities.

2. Recency of observations. Many observations were made as late as 1954-57, whereas prisoner-of-war reports generally date back to the pre-1950 period, which is prior to the period of most rapid growth and change. 25X1X6

3. Wide distribution of [REDACTED] Repatriates

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[REDACTED] Figures)

	<u>Total No.</u>	<u>No. on SR List</u>
Cities on which repatriates are knowledgeable	121	47
Number of urban interrogations	33	12
Estimated potential city coverage	200-250	--
Estimated individual interrogations possible	300-350	--